[11th September 1946

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Is the answer to the short notice question ready or may it be taken up to-morrow? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I am not sure if it will be ready to-morrow. We might have it day after to-morrow if you please, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Yes."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commncement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. THE PRESIDENT.

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that the following message, dated Fort St. George, the 10th September 1946, has been received from the Hon. the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly :—

'In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1946 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1949), as passed by the Assembly on the 10th September 1946 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council'."

GOVERNMENT BILL.

III.—THE MADRAS TENANTS AND RYOTS PROTECTION BILL, 1946, AS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" Mr. President, I move—

' *that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill*, 1946, *as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.*'

" In making this motion, I shall briefly explain the objects and scope of the Bill. Hon. Members are aware that a Committee was appointed by the Congress Government in 1938 regarding the Estates Land Act. It went exhaustively into the question of tenures and the condition of tenants in estates and made its report. Similarly for the district of Malabar a Committee called Kuttikrishna Menon Committee was appointed by the Congress Government and that Committee examined the question of tenancy in Malabar and made a report. There are two reports on these questions. With regard to the latter report, the Adviser Government have kept it aside on account of the war and after this Government came into office, the Board of Revenue has been asked to go through its recommendations and then to report upon them. A special officer is also going into them. Pending consideration of these matters, it has now been brought to the notice of Government that a large number of suits and eviction proceedings are pending in the areas covered by these two reports. A large number of tenants are likely to be evicted in case a stay legislation of this kind is not brought in. This legislation is brought in so that necessary relief may be granted before the main legislation on both these questions are brought in. I understand that in the district of Malabar, there are pending about 9,000 suits involving eviction of which 5,000 are in North Malabar and 4,000 in South Malabar. Apart from these there are execution and other proceedings pending. Generally, this will be the position with regard to the Estates Land Act areas also.